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6 May 1947

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Mr. B. I. Rutledge



Dear Mr. Rutledge:

Many thanks for your letter of 2 May 1947 and its sensible approach to a vital issue. Please be assured that it will be referred to the proper agencies.

With appreciation for your interest in our mutual desire for permanent peace, I am

Very sincerely,

s/RNH

ROSCOE H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

Executive Office Registry
Central Records (2)
General Wright
~~Staffback~~

Director

*Dispatched
6 May 47*

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May 2, 1947

Rear Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral:

According to the press today, Pres. Truman has appointed you to head Central Intelligence. Would like to call your attention to an item that appeared in the press on Dec 16, 1946 and confirmed by the USSR Information Bulletin of Mar 12, 1947. You may have seen it and may not. It said that the USSR had distributed \$5,800,000 among 24,000 mothers all of whom had three or more children. Furthermore that Moscow now had 275 mother heroines or mothers of 10 children or more. Think you will recall how Mussolini and Hitler had similar programs in the twenties and thirties even though they were "beefing" at the same time about lack of living space. We did not have sense enough to squawk about this cannon fodder raising program and you know full well what it cost us in World War II to eliminate some of it. Do you not think our State Department should register a protest with both the USSR and the United Nations over this program of the USSR?

Think you also know how difficult a proposition it is to promoted peace and brotherly love among people that are hungry. For the over-populated countries of Europe and Asia would recommend a campaign (1) that each family have only one child, so that in one generation's time its population would be more than halved, (2) that they have this one child as late in life as possible so that there would not be so many generations alive at one time, (3) that they pin medals of honor on the chests of old maids and bachelors because they have no progeny to aggravate the food problem.

As you will be in constant communication with the heads of our army, navy, and air forces, wish that you might ask these gentlemen if they do not think some of the money spent for war material might more advantageously be spent in flooding some of the over-populated countries of Europe and Asia with contraceptives and birth control literature.

Congress has undoubtedly established your department on the theory that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. As new head of Central Intelligence hope that you will do everything possible to prevent the US from becoming involved in another war.

Yours truly,
/s/B.I. Rutledge

cc-Iowa League for Planned Parenthood
222 Davidson Bldg., Des Moines, Iowa
W Earl Hall, Editor
Mason City Globe Gazette, Mason City, Iowa